

## WILSON AND BAKER CHEERED BY NEWS

Pershing Sends Word U. S. Men Fight as Divisions and as Units With French.

## FOCH MASTER MOVE SEEN

May Be 100,000 Americans in Battle, Including Rainbows, Washington Says.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 18.—In what is regarded as one of the master counter strokes of the war American troops participating for the first time in a grand offensive have carried the flag forward beside the Tri Color and planted it within sight of Soissons.

Official confirmation of to-day's offensive being by the Americans and the French reached the War Department from Gen. Pershing this afternoon. It caused a feeling of jubilation throughout the city. Nothing since the war began has so excited official circles here as the news that American divisions—regulars, Marines and probably National Guard troops—were "over the top" at last, and sweeping forward through the German lines.

"It's only the start," was the general comment of gray haired army officers, who had longed for the day when their labor would see fruit.

Secretary Baker found it difficult to conceal his joy. President Wilson received the press bulletin at the White House during the afternoon and was reported as being "pleased beyond measure."

Baker Issues Statement.  
This was the statement which Secretary Baker issued late this afternoon after Gen. Pershing's cable had been received:

"The Department has received from Gen. Pershing an official confirmation of the opening of the counter offensive along the lines carried in the newspaper dispatches. American troops are participating both as complete divisions and as units in association with the French.

"The first objectives seem everywhere to have been attained, and while no accurate account has been made it is clear that many prisoners have been taken and guns and other war materials have been captured.

"Our official reports also confirm the fact that the American soldiers advanced with the greatest dash and gallantry and were still advancing when last heard from."

Both Secretary Baker and Gen. March were at the War Department to-night hoping to get further details from Gen. Pershing, but it is understood that none had been received up to a late hour.

In launching this counter stroke at the western side of the German wedge resting along the Marne army officers of the General Staff believed that Gen. Foch has possibly repeated his stroke at the Marne with consequences as fatal and far reaching for the Germans as the elation felt here at its initial success is the greater because of the participation of Americans in what may prove to have been a decisive stroke.

About 200,000 Men in Offensive.  
It was estimated that at least 200,000 men have participated in to-day's offensive. Secretary Baker refused to hazard even a guess as to the number of Americans participating, but the opinion of officers in the War Department is that three American divisions at a minimum were engaged and possibly more. Four divisions would mean more than 100,000 Americans.

It is assumed here that the First and Second Divisions of Regulars and Marines commanded by Major-Gen. Bullard and Bundy certainly took part in the offensive and that the Rainbow Division and possibly the Thirty-second National Guard Division were also engaged. The First Division of Regulars has been near Montdidier, while the Second Division, which includes the Marines, has been in the shadow of the Thirty-second. Some of these American divisions of the First Division, in the Wood, apparently acted as shock troops. No report has come in the last two days regarding the Rainbow Division, but the impression is that it has been operating already south of the Marne.

In preparation for this counter offensive Gen. Foch is believed to have shifted troops with a celerity which has never been surpassed in the history of the war. Some of the American divisions were included in this movement, some probably being brought up from south of the Marne, while Bullard's veterans of the First Division, in the Wood, were brought over from the Montdidier region. These troops were probably preferred as veterans.

Motor Trucks Move Up Troops.  
Reports indicate that troops were moved up in motor trucks, bringing their artillery with them, the woods acting as a screen, and in a few hours were ready to advance. This, it was pointed out, was a new tactical move of the highest order. That American brigade and division commanders had met this test, as shown by the results achieved, was the cause of great satisfaction to Gen. March and the General Staff.

With the lines now within a mile of Soissons and the railroad from Reims to Chateau Thierry under shell fire, the Germans along the Marne are regarded as being in grave peril. The possibility of a German retreat on a vast scale is even opened up.

Only quick action by the German commanders and the utilization of a tremendous number of reserves it is believed can save them from a retreat to their former lines. Such a retreat would mean a disaster second only to that of the first battle of the Marne.

Even if the Germans are not forced to pull in their entire wedge with its apex now along the Marne, the counter offensive, General Staff officers believe, will require such a large number of reserves to stop that they will be obliged in any event to give up their attempt to reach Epernay and cut off Rheims.

Gen. Foch's tactics have been similar to those the Germans resorted to in the fighting at Cambrai, where they drove in along the sides of the British wedge.

Looked Upon as Turn of Tide.

The ability of the Allies to take the offensive on such a scale is being hailed here as marking the turn of the tide. Wholesale arrivals of American troops fresh and eager to get at the Germans enabled the Allies to launch such an offensive, the first undertaken on such a scale since the German drive began last March.

This is the big fact which stood out to-day. It caused no end of gratification to those who have been instrumental in speeding up troop shipments in the last few months. While there has been criticism of the failure of the Allies to take the initiative it has been generally realized here that Gen. Foch's strategy was to wait until the arrival of enough Americans had supplied him with reserves in sufficient number to deal the Germans a smashing blow.

## KING LAUDS MARCH IN BESTOWING HONOR

Gratified by General's Services to Allies.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 18.—The cablegram conferring the Honorary Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George by King George V. on Gen. March, Chief of Staff, follows:

"I am happy to have the privilege of informing you that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to confer upon you the honorary award of Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George."

Each member of the British Embassy, called at the War Department to-day and notified Gen. March of the King's act. He also left with Gen. March the following letter:

"It gives me great pleasure to inform you that His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer upon you the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George."

"I have already informed the Secretary of State and the Secretary of War of this award, and in making this personal communication to you I wish to take the opportunity of expressing the sincere gratification which I feel at this recognition by the King of the most gallant leader of the Allied forces."

The recent army appropriation bill approved by the President last week says this on the subject of decorations:

"Any and all members of the military forces of the United States serving in the present war and they are hereby permitted and authorized to accept during the present war or within one year thereafter from the Government of any of the countries engaged in war with any country with which the United States is or shall be concurrently at war."

Decorations when tendered as are conferred by such Government upon the members of its own military forces; and the consent of Congress required therefor by clause 5 of section 2 of Article I of the Constitution is hereby expressly granted: Provided, that any officer or enlisted man of the military forces of the United States is hereby authorized to accept and wear any medal or decoration heretofore bestowed by the Government of the nation concurrently engaged with the United States in the present war."

## ASK WILSON TO AID CHILD LABOR BILL

Gompers and Committee Have Substitute for Unconstitutional Law.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 18.—President Wilson's support for a new child labor law which will settle the problem and avoid the technicality upon which the old law was held unconstitutional was sought by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and a group of other labor leaders to-day.

The President said he would give the question his earnest consideration, but in accordance with his policy did not commit himself. It is expected, however, that he will comply with the request, as it is known to favor maintaining high labor standards.

The Supreme Court held that the old law was unconstitutional in that child labor regulation was a matter of State control. Senator Lenroot recently introduced a bill providing a tax upon all products of child labor. He proposed an additional 10 per cent. child labor tax on all products employing child labor that were subject to the old law.

Mr. Gompers was accompanied by James Lord of the American Federation of Labor and V. Ewell Mack, head of the labor section of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, chairman of its wage adjustment board and one of the President's advisers for the National War Labor Board.

## DESTROYER, BUILT IN 3 MONTHS, LAUNCHED

Before War Two Years Was Not Too Long.

QUINCY, Mass., July 18.—The Delphy, the first destroyer to be launched at the Squantum works of the Fore River plant since the outbreak of the war, was christened to-day by Mrs. W. S. Sims, wife of the Vice-Admiral, Christianized the vessel. Within two hours the keel of another destroyer was laid on the same ways.

The Delphy took the water three months from the time her keel was laid and only seven months and twelve days after the signing of the contract for her construction. Nine months was estimated as necessary, and before the war two years was considered none too short a time. The destroyer will be in commission within six weeks.

The construction of the Squantum plant and its production of work believed to constitute a new world mark in shipbuilding. It is expected that one destroyer will be launched every eight days.

Women to Fight Boche Peace Talk.  
CHICAGO, July 18.—A pledge that 700,000 women workers for the Liberty Loans will fight any possible German peace propaganda was made to-day by members of the National Women's Liberty Loan Committee, and their State and Federal Reserve chairmen.

Kennedy  
is Gortland's  
EVERY STRAW HAT REDUCED

SENNITS MILANS MACKINAW PORTO RICOS 95c to \$1.65

Genuine Leghorns & Panamas Cut to \$2.25 and \$3.90

MOTELS AND RESTAURANTS.  
All Hotels and Restaurants Adhering to the FIVE STAR SYSTEM of the United States Food Administration.

TURKEY CLUB DINNER, \$1.00  
ROSSER'S CAMAUS  
104th St. & Columbus Ave. N.Y.C.  
Special Grill Service for Gentlemen  
Refined Entertainment—Ladies' Prices at 10 P. M.

Luchow's  
14th Street, near Fourth Avenue

## TO MOBILIZE ALL DOCTORS IN U. S.

Government Will Apportion Physicians to Army and at Home.

## MAY DRAFT IF NECESSARY

Will Ask Pledge to Accept Whatever Duty Shall Be Assigned.

WASHINGTON, July 18.—The Government is about to assume control of the entire medical profession in the United States, to obtain sufficient doctors for the fast growing army and at the same time to distribute those remaining to the localities or services where they are most needed for civilian work.

This mobilization is to be accomplished either by enrolling all doctors in a volunteer service corps, under pledge to accept whatever service, military or civilian, is assigned them by the governing body, or, if the voluntary plan is not successful, by legislation providing for drafting them into Government service. Medical officers of the Government believe compulsory conscription will not be necessary.

Organization plans for the volunteer medical service corps already have been made and enrollment begun in a few States under authority of the Council of National Defense.

Would Enroll All Doctors.  
Instead of enrolling in this corps only those physicians not suitable for military service, either because of age, physical infirmity, dependency or institutional or public need, as planned at present, the Government is expected shortly to throw open the membership to all doctors, and to bind each with a pledge "during the present emergency to accept service, military or civilian, wherever, whenever and for whatever duty he may be called by the central governing board."

Under this project, the army and navy would take these physicians and surgeons best fitted for active duty and they could be spared from civilian requirements. At the same time the Government would maintain a continuous survey of the country and assign doctors to those communities in which there were too few practitioners.

The practical operation, officials believe, would cause little of the relocation, however, since physicians who are needed in certain communities, hospitals, schools and for other civilian purposes would not be commissioned in the army.

One-fourth Now in Service.  
Conferences of doctors were held to-day in Washington and a number of other cities to discuss the operation of the voluntary enrollment plan.

Of the 143,000 doctors in the United States, it is estimated between 30,000 and 35,000 are in active practice, and 23,000, or about one-fourth, are in the army or navy. Nearly 50,000 will be required eventually for the army. The active practitioners remaining, together with those who have retired, but who can be persuaded to resume active work, must carry on the health maintenance work in this country.

Because of the war to-day, Surgeon-General Gorgas of the army, Bureau of the navy and Blue of the Public Health Service are considering a plan for commissioning all teachers in medical schools and assigning them to their present duties. This would constitute a means of preventing further disruption of medical teaching, which, at the same time, would recognize their public service.

600 TURKO-GERMANS TAKEN.  
Attack on British in Palestine Is Costly Failure.

LONDON, July 18.—An official statement issued at Constantinople relative to the fighting in Palestine on July 13 and 14 says that east of the Jordan a Turkish assault provoked a British counter action, which was supported by a cavalry division and armored cars. The Turkish War Office claims that this division was almost annihilated, only some stragglers succeeding in escaping.

Reuter's correspondent in Palestine says that the Turkish attack early on Sunday morning proved costly and failed to gain an inch of ground. The enemy lost 600 prisoners, it is stated, of whom more than half were Germans.

NO FIRING SQUAD FOR MALVY.  
Charge Modified to Make Life Term Extreme Penalty.

PARIS, July 18.—Charges against Louis J. Malvy, formerly Minister of the Interior, were so modified to-day by State Prosecutor Merillon that the greatest punishment which can be visited upon him, if found guilty, will be life imprisonment.

At the option of the court in case of extenuating circumstances the sentence against Mr. Malvy, if he is convicted, may be five years solitary confinement.

British Airmen Do Much Damage in Raid.  
London, July 18.—An official statement given to-day by the British Air Ministry says:

"During the night of July 16-17 our machines bombed the works at Hagendagen and the Barbach works. Good results were observed and appreciable damage was done."

"A hostile aerodrome was also bombed with good results."

"All our machines returned safely."

"On the 16th one of our machines successfully attacked the railway and sidings at Thionville. All our machines returned safely."

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Thoroughly Modern  
Mechanically Right

TO MAKE SURE of the quality of its material, Studebaker operates one of the most complete laboratories in the automobile industry.

To make sure of its manufacture, it employs men sufficiently experienced and capable to know what real quality means. It places at the disposal of its laboratories and its manufacturing experts the resources of one of the most complete manufacturing establishments in the world.

Studebaker quality, dominant for 66 years, is reflected to its fullest in the New Series 19 Studebaker Cars.

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New York Showrooms, 56th Street & Broadway

## SENATE IS STIRRED BY IRISH PETITION

Sinn Fein Assault on an Ally, Says King of Document Sponsored by Lewis.

## HELD FOR INVESTIGATION

Von Kummard, Linheim and Kaiser Among Signers Utah Man Calls Traitors.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 18.—A petition, said to have been signed by 600,000 persons, urging the President and Congress to demand of Great Britain the immediate independence of Ireland, was presented in the Senate to-day by Senator Lewis (Ill.).

The Senator asked that the petition, which had been circulated by the Friends of Irish Freedom, be inserted in the Congressional Record.

"I am much opposed to the reading of this petition," said Senator King (Utah). "It is an attempt by a number of people to assist one of our allies, Great Britain. There are a number of traitors, so-called Irishmen, in this country, and it is in line with the propaganda carried on by these traitors—the Sinn Fein—against our allies."

Sensor Lewis in denying that the Chicago signers were traitors said: "My friends and I are not traitors, and these Irish people, I can assure the Senate, are as loyal to the United States as any people within our borders."

German Names on List.  
Senator Lewis sent one of the multiple sheets to the desk. It was headed: "Petition to the President and Congress for the Independence of Ireland." Subscribed upon the sheet were about a score of signatures, most of them of undoubted Irish names, but included were the names of Von Kummard, Hohendorf, Scheller, Kaiser, Becker and Linheim.

Upon the suggestion of Senator Smoot that the House had ordered the publication of a similar petition in the Record the document was turned over to the Committee on Printing for investigation. The text of the petition follows:

Friends of Irish Freedom:  
We as American citizens, respectfully demand of the Government of the United States that Ireland be a distinct nation, deprived of her liberty and held in submission by England by military power. As America has entered the war for the preservation of democracy and the freedom of small nations this Government is in honor bound to apply this principle impartially in all cases of peoples held in subjection, whether they be under the jurisdiction of Germany, like Belgium, or of England, like Ireland.

Complete Independence Only.  
As America cannot be a party to any scheme of world peace which withholds from any nation the God-given right of freedom, the only final settlement must be the complete independence of Ireland.

America has the right by her entry into the war to demand it from England, not in the peace conference at the close of the war but now.

We therefore respectfully urge upon the President and Congress the necessity and good policy of giving a great example to the world by insisting that England shall grant Ireland complete independence. We earnestly hope, like Cuba, Ireland will be made free by the action of America.

JUNKER VIEWS OF BELGIUM.  
Fatherland Party Considers It a Pledge for Peace.

AMSTERDAM, July 18.—While declining to give its criticism of the recent statement by Chancellor von Hertling regarding Belgium, the German Fatherland party, according to current German newspapers, has issued the following statement on the subject:

"As far as we are concerned, Belgium is a pledge to safeguard a lasting peace, to strengthen Germany's hands in Belgium, to preserve it from Anglo-American exploitation, to preserve the Flemings and their industries from becoming Frenchified and from English tyranny. We want a free Flanders as a real guarantee for the vital necessities of the German people."

BOMBS WRECK GERMAN WORKS  
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## MEN ON RAILROADS TO ESCAPE DRAFT

Miners Also to Get Occupational Exemptions.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 18.—Occupational exemptions from military service for men engaged in vocations essential to the conduct of the war are under consideration by the War Department and the various war boards and administrations in Washington.

Among these are men engaged in railroad work, the production of coal and in certain lines of manufacturing. In each instance so far, where a coal miner has asked for an occupational exemption, it was said at the Provost Marshal-General's office to-day, it has been granted.

The role of the carrier pigeon proved most important in the Champagne fighting, where the French advance posts were often cut off from the main body and possessed only this means of communicating. The birds constantly brought back messages keeping the staff informed concerning the movements of the Germans. In one instance a pigeon brought a request that the French artillerymen open fire on a position occupied by their own comrades, because the Germans were surrounding them in dense masses. The gunners complied, mowing lanes in the German waves. Their wonderful accuracy of aim spared their comrades, many of whom afterward were able to make their way back.

Enemy's Huge Losses.  
The admittedly enormous losses of the Germans during the crossing of the Marne must have been fully equalled in the Champagne sector, where their assaulting waves hurled themselves vainly against deep barriers of barbed wire under the fire of hundreds of machine guns.

At noon on Monday when the Germans were bringing forward reserve divisions in the neighborhood of the Moronville range of hills the French gunners got their exact range with telling effect. When the smoke cleared, great heaps of dead and wounded men and horses were plainly visible on the slopes of the hills.

Some of the assaulting divisions were so badly battered that they had to be withdrawn while the fight was still in progress. Although the Germans gathered about fifty of the best divisions on the battle front, not all have been engaged and they still possess sufficient strength to make another effort here or elsewhere.

"Army Doctor" Sent to Bellevue.  
Dr. C. E. Goodwin, who said that he was in the Medical Corps at Fort Slocum until March 16, when he was discharged for physical disability, was brought before Judge Hand in the Federal Court yesterday upon the charge of illegally wearing an army uniform. Officers of the Intelligence Bureau made the charge. After the man had stated his case to the court, he was committed to Bellevue Hospital for observation.

Two Drownings in Navy.  
WASHINGTON, July 18.—The drowning of Robert G. Mitchell, a chief yeoman of the Naval Reserve, of Fairfax, Cal., and Francis Joseph Driscoll, seaman, of Revere, Mass., was announced to-day by the Navy Department. Mitchell was killed by a steam launch, and Driscoll July 12 at Hampton Roads.

George Turnure of Lenox Scores Third Air Victory.

PARIS, July 18.—Charles J. Biddle of Andalusia, Pa., an American aviator, attacked two enemy two seater machines over the German lines yesterday. He probably downed one of them, but was wounded. Losing sense of direction during a shell hole, he landed between the American and German lines, but regained the allied trenches after taking refuge in a shell hole.

Christopher Ford of New York City has brought down his second enemy machine. Frank C. D. Hunter attacked an enemy two seater and was wounded. Although blinded with blood he succeeded in bringing his machine to earth.

George Turnure of Lenox, Mass., downed a sausage balloon after three unsuccessful attempts, scoring his third aerial victory.

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## DRIVE TRAPS ENEMY WHILE THEY SLEEP

Continued from First Page.

drivers passed four days and nights without a moment's repose in hurrying troops from one section of the line to another, wherever most needed, and often under heavy fire.

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## 61 SHIPS ORDERED. 47 OF THEM STEEL

Yonkers Firm to Build One Wooden Vessel.

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Contracts for 61 ships of 430,800 deadweight tons were announced to-day by the Shipping Board. Of this tonnage 392,800 will be steel. To the Skinner & Eddy Corporation of Seattle went a contract for 35 steel cargo steamships of a deadweight tonnage of 132,800.

The Mobile Shipbuilding Company of Mobile, Ala., received a contract to build 12 steel freighters of 60,000 tons.

Contracts for 14 wooden ships went to K. M. Murdoch of Jacksonville, Fla., who will construct 6 of 21,000 tons; the Missouri Valley Bridge and Iron Company of Quincy, Va., which will build 7 of 24,500 tons, and the Continental Shipbuilding Corporation of Yonkers, N. Y., which will build 1 vessel of 1,800 tons.

CHOLERA MENACES SWEDEN.  
Six New Cases and Three With Fatal Results Reported.

LONDON, July 18.—Six new cases of Asiatic cholera have been reported in Stockholm in the last few days, says a despatch from Copenhagen to the Exchange Telegraph Company. Steamship traffic between the Danish capital and Petrograd, consequently, the message adds, has been stopped.

The newspapers say that a case of cholera has been detected aboard a ship which has arrived at Gofte, a Swedish seaport on the Gulf of Bothnia.

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50th to 60th St., Lexington to 3d Ave.

The Last Straw  
broke the camel's back; these Straws won't break you—they're only \$1.38, and mighty fine for the price. Splits and Sennits in all the wanted shapes; sizes up to 7½. Also a limited number of Panamas at \$3.85.

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